

USDA Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

Template Version 2.09

Voluntary Report - public distribution

Date: 12/4/2006

GAIN Report Number: HR6014

Croatia Grain and Feed Crop Update 2006

Approved by:

Sarah Hanson U.S. Embassy

Prepared by:

Andreja Misir

Report Highlights:

According to the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, corn was sown on slightly less than 300,0000 ha. with total production at 2.2 million MT. However, industry sources estimate that production totaled 1.5 million MT, a 400,000 MT shortfall for meeting domestic consumption. As a result, the Agricultural Ministry imposed a 25% export duty on corn until March 15, 2007. In addition, the Ministry may lower or reduce the import duty to zero depending on the rise in corn prices. This reduced import duty would be valid only during the times of shortage. The 2005/2006 wheat crop was sown on 176,000 ha with total production at 804,000 MT, which will meet domestic consumption needs but leave little room for exports or imports. Barley was sown, on 59,179 ha with a yield of 210,171 MT. This production is expected to meet domestic demand.

Includes PSD Changes: No Includes Trade Matrix: No Unscheduled Report Vienna [AU1] [HR]

Wheat

According to the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, the 2005/2006 wheat crop was sown on 176,000 ha with total production at 804,000 MT, which will meet domestic consumption needs but leave little room for exports or imports. Nevertheless, a small amount of durum wheat will be imported for blending, as is the case every year.

Corn

According to the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, corn was sown on 299,138 ha. Industry sources estimate that the average harvest was 5 MT/ha resulting in a total production of 1.5 million MT--400,000 MT short for meeting domestic consumption. According to the Ministry of Agriculture sources, the shortage will be even greater than industry estimates because domestic cattle and pig production is up by 35%, and meat imports are decreasing significantly. As a result, the Ministry imposed a 25% export duty on corn until March 15, 2007. In addition, the Ministry may lower or reduce the import duty to zero depending on the rise in corn prices. This reduced import duty would be valid only during the times of shortage.

Barley

According to the Croatian Bureau of Statistics, barley was sown, on 59,179 ha with a yield of 210,171 MT. This production is expected to meet domestic demand, and Croatia is not expected to import significant amounts of barley this year.

Tariffs

Tariffs and quota information can be found at www.carina.hr,or from the USDA/FAS office in Zagreb by contacting Andreja Misir, USDA/FAS, Agricultural Specialist, andreja.misir@usda.gov